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World Production and Trade

United States Department of Agriculture

Foreign Agricultural Service

Washington, D.C. 20250

Weekly Roundup

WR 45-84

Nov. 7, 1984

The Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture today reported the following developments in world agriculture and trade:

GRAIN AND FEED

GREECE's 1984/85 total grain crop is estimated at 5.1 million tons, 19 percent above last year's drought-reduced crop, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Athens. Total wheat production in 1984/85 is estimated at 2.6 million tons, 29 percent above last year's crop. Soft wheat production is estimated at 1.7 million tons, an increase of 16 percent from last year, while durum production is estimated at a record 908,000 tons, 62 percent above 1983/84. Coarse grain production is estimated at 2.4 million tons, an increase of 10 percent from last year's harvest, while rice production (milled basis) is estimated at 53,000 tons, the same as last year's crop.

The REPUBLIC OF KOREA's 1984 rice crop is estimated at 5.7 million tons (milled basis), up 5 percent from last year's 5.4-million-ton crop, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Seoul. The larger 1984 harvest is attributed to near ideal weather which boosted yields. This year's rice output is expected to be the highest since 1978/79 and the third largest crop on record.

Because of a smaller-than-anticipated crop, BRAZIL will have to import record quantities of wheat to supplement domestic supplies. The president of the Brazilian Wheat Board recently said that Brazil needs to import a minimum of 4.8 million tons of milling-quality wheat, and has logistical capabilities to import even more if needed. The United States has traditionally supplied Brazil with most of its wheat import needs, but is facing increased competition from Argentina.

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CHINA is continuing to market its corn surplus aggressively to traditional U.S. customers in Asia. Exports could reach a level of 2-2.5 million tons over the next 12 months. Although it is not uncommon for China to export corn, exports of this magnitude would be the highest in many years. Japan recently reported that about 550,000 tons of Chinese corn was purchased for delivery through April 1985, and reportedly China also has been exporting to the Republic of Korea.

The signing of a barter arrangement last month between POLAND and the SOVIET UNION in which Poland will supply the USSR with 400,000 tons of rye in exchange for 350,000 tons of wheat indicates Poland has a larger supply of rye available for export than previously thought. Poland's exports were originally forecast at only 200,000 tons of rye in 1984/85 (October-September), and exports of this magnitude, coupled with the barter trade with the USSR, would be a record high. Although Poland is forecast to import 2.7 million tons of wheat and coarse grains in 1984/85, a record grain crop of almost 23 million tons is enabling Poland to consider exporting to generate foreign exchange and cutting back somewhat on future grain imports.

TAIWAN's recent decision to resume importing corn from THAILAND ran into problems when two shipments totaling 35,000 tons were initially rejected because they contained twice the allowable limits of aflatoxin. The two shipments were finally accepted, however, once it was determined by Taiwanese chemists that the aflatoxin would be destroyed if the corn were processed into starch and not destined for human consumption. Thailand recently resumed shipments of corn to Taiwan after a two-year hiatus because of previous aflatoxin problems. During this period, U.S. exporters secured almost 100 percent of Taiwan's annual 3-million-ton corn market.

OILSEEDS AND PRODUCTS

The EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (EC) Council's formal proposals to Spain and Portugal for the integration of their vegetable fats and oils sectors into the EC do not call for negotiations with third countries on limitations of imports of all oilseeds and products into the enlarged Community. However, the Council has stated that the new olive oil regime for the enlarged Community—to be brought into effect after accession—will take into account developments in the overall oils and fats market, as well as the implications of commercial concessions granted to third countries. The system proposed for Spanish and Portuguese imports from third countries of oilseeds and products other than olive oil would in fact maintain the status quo for at least five years after accession.

DAIRY, LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY pork export subsidies to the United States have been reduced for the fourth time since May 1984. Effective October 9, the canned ham subsidy was lowered 8.0 European Currency Units (ECUs) per 100 kilograms, net weight, to 42.0 ECUs. For shoulders, an export subsidy of 37.0 ECUs per 100 kilograms is now in effect, compared with 42.0 ECUs earlier.

The U.S. agricultural counselor in Cairo has reported that EGYPTIAN demand for U.S. beef liver continues to expand. Local trade sources report there is still substantial unmet demand for additional imports. Beef liver is classified as an essential commodity. As a result, import licenses are not difficult to obtain and the commodity is relatively free of burdensome import regulations. Several Egyptian importers have expressed interest in developing trading relationships with U.S. exporters to ensure reliable supplies of the product. U.S. exports of beef liver to Egypt totaled 16,442 tons worth \$18.2 million in 1983 and reached 11,417 tons during January-August 1984.

COTTON AND FIBERS

In the UNITED STATES, September cotton exports totaled 280,000 bales, the lowest monthly level in nearly a year. Leading destinations were South Korea, Japan, Indonesia and Italy. August-September exports of 758,000 bales remain slightly ahead of last season due to strong export movement in August of cotton sold the USSR during 1983/84. The total value of U.S. cotton exports during August-September was \$282 million.

TUBACCO

SPAIN's unmanufactured tobacco imports in 1984 are projected to drop 4.5 percent to 66,200 tons in response to a decline in manufacturers' use. However, imports from the United States, mostly of flue-cured and burley blends, are expected to increase 30 percent because of greater demand for domestically produced American-blend cigarettes. U.S. unmanufactured tobacco exports to Spain during January-August 1984 totaled 21,404 tons, valued at \$152.4 million, making Spain the leading U.S. tobacco market.

FRUITS AND NUTS

JAPAN's 1984/85 citrus production is forecast at about 3.0 million tons, down 18 percent from last season's crop, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Tokyo. The tangerine harvest is expected to be approximately 2.6 million tons, 20 percent below last season and the smallest outturn since 1969/70. Leading the projected decline in tangerine production is a 24-percent drop in satsuma (mandarin orange) outturn; this season's satsuma crop is forecast at 2.2 million tons. The downturn in the satsuma crop is attributed to an unusually severe winter and a continuing area reduction under the government's on-going production adjustment program.

SPAIN's 1984/85 citrus production is forecast at 3.4 million tons, 13 percent below last year's record 3.9-million-ton output according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Madrid. The downturn is attributed mainly to dry conditions that have restricted irrigation water supplies. Generally, the quality of this season's citrus crop is expected to be below that of last season. Production estimates, by fruit type, are as follows in 1,000 tons:

Revised 1983/84	Forecast 1984/85
2,077	1,885
1,263	1,026
523	433
13	13
14	23
3,890	3,380
	2,077 1,263 523 13 14

1/ Mostly sour oranges.

SPECIAL NOTICE

USDA's Agricultural Outlook Conference on Dec. 3-5 will feature four 900-line telephone numbers to provide live access to speeches given in Jefferson Auditorium, the Forrestal Building Auditorium, Room 107-A and Room 1E-245. To call, dial:

(900) 410-JEFF (Jefferson Auditorium) (900) 410-FORR (Forrestal Auditorium) (900) 410-1245 (Room 1E-245) (900) 410-107A (Room 107-A)

The cost is 50 cents for the first minute and 35 cents for each additional minute. At 5:30 p.m. each day, taped morning sessions from each location will be replayed for listeners who may have missed the live transmission.

-5-Selected International Prices

Item	: Nov.	6, 1984 :	Change from : previous we	
ROTTERDAM PRICES 1/	\$ per MT	\$ per bu.	\$ per MT	\$ per MT
Wheat:				
Canadian No. 1 CWRS-13.5%.	190.00	5.17	0	208.00
U.S. No. 2 DNS/NS: 14%	174.00	4.74	+1.00	188.00
U.S. No. 2 S.R.W. 9/	164.50	4.48	+.75	161.00
U.S. No. 3 H.A.D	190.00	5.17	+1.00	205.00
Canadian No. 1 A: Durum Feed grains:	206.00	5.61	0	213.00
U.S. No. 3 Yellow Corn Soybeans and meal:	133.50	3.39	+1.00	163.50
U.S. No. 2 Yellow	251.30	6.84	+3.30	338.20
Brazil 47/48% SoyaPellets 4	/ 186.50		-2.50	297.00
U.S. 44% Soybean Meal U.S. FARM PRICES 3/	166.00	****	-2.50	270.00
Wheat	126.75	3.45	73	129.69
Barley	80.38	1.75	-3.67	100.13
Corn	102.36	2.60	-1.57	130.31
Sorghum	88.85	4.03 6/	-3.97	113.98
Broilers 4/ EC IMPORT LEVIES	1124.35		+72.09	1192.47
Wheat 5/	49.95	1.36	+5.60	71.30
Barley	55.95	1.22	+5.05	50.20
Corn	53.85	1.37	+7.70	41.25
Sorghum	69.10	1.76	+6.10	58.40
Broilers 4/ 6/ 8/ EC INTERVENTION PRICES 7/	168.00		+6.00	250.00
Common wheat(feed quality)	144.70	3.94	+4.65	165.75
Bread wheat (min. quality)7 Barley and all	/ 153.75	4.18	+4.30	181.95
other feed grains	144.70		+4.65	165.75
Broilers 4/ 6/	1043.00		-31.00	1264.00
EC EXPORT RESTITUTIONS (subsid	lies)			
Wheat	N.A.	9	MI A NACS	40.10
Barley	N.A.	The same of the same of	1000	25.60
Broilers 4/ 6/ 8/	99.00		+3.00	171.00

1/ Asking prices in U.S. dollars for imported grain and soybeans, c.i.f.,
Rotterdam. 2/ Hundredweight (CWT). 3/ Twelve-city average, wholesale weighted
average. 4/ EC category--70 percent whole chicken. 5/ Reflects lower EC export
subsidy--down to 20.00 ECU/100 bag effective 9/14/83 from 22.50 ECU/100 bag
set in 2/83. 6/ F.o.b. price for R.T.C. broilers at West German border. 7/
Reference price. 8/ Reflects change in level set by EC. 9/ December delivery.
N.A.=None authorized. N.Q.=Not quoted. Note: Basis November delivery.

Do you need information about

- Overseas markets and buying trends?
- New competitors and products?
- Trade policy developments?
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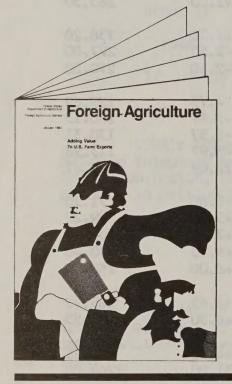
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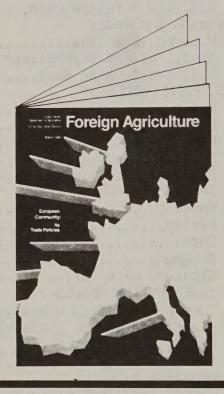
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